## COMMUNICATIONS.

## Parks and Taxes.

To the Editor of The Journal. An evening paper recently said: "The opposition to parks displayed by wealthy owners of vacant lots affords an excellent opportunity for advocates of the single tax theory to make converts among conservative citizens." If this be true, then, conversely, the "kickers" have an excellent opportunity to make converts among those conservative citizens who do not believe in the Henry George theory. And herein, as appears to me, lies the whole question.

If it is right to provide public parks by the single tax plan, then by the same method should we provide public schools, public libraries, public baths and hospitals and all other municipal needs and luxuries which make urban life attractive and thus indirectly increase the uncarned increment of

rectly increase the unearned increment of value in vacant lots.

What valid reason can be given why vacant ground should bear the whole burden of maintaining public parks which will not apply with equal force to all the leading objects for which municipal taxes are levied? "Public parks make a city or the district in which they are located a more desirable piace of residence, and thus enhance the value of vacant ground." Do not public schools, libraries, fire and police protection have the same effect? "Public parks will help to bring new and desirable citizens with capital to invest and homes to make among us." So do our excellent public schools, our efficient fire and police protection attract with still more force the homeseeker. And, in this connection it may be added that insofar as may consist with the attainment of these municipal rehomeseeker. Also, in may be added that insofar as may consist with the attainment of these municipal requirements, low taxes are attractive.

Is there another important or unimportant city in the land which creates and maintains a system of public parks by this system of tuxation? I don't pretend to know, but I have seen none cited as an example; no place where experience has justified what seems, at least, a questionable experiment.

ample; no place where experience has justified what seems, at least, a questionable experiment.

The advocates of single tax parks rather disingenuously assume that all owners of vacant lots are rich men. We all know that this is not true, and it doesn't seem just right for these conservative but overzesious and somewhat intolerant single tax parkers to appeal to a prejudice already somewhat overworked during the late political campaign. This habit of inveighing againts rich men should not be indulged, even to promote a worthy object.

Perry Belmont, in a recent magazine article on the general subject of taxation, justly remarks that "the power of the majority to take away property from the minority by a tax is a tremendous manifestation of sovereignty." An abuse of this power always provokes resistance and hurts the community so offending. It is said that public sentiment is overwhelmingly in favor of parks. So it is, and rightly so; but is it too much to say that the public sentiment which favors this particular method of acquiring parks has been worked up by methods which are open to criticism? It is as illogical and unjust to stigmatize all who oppose the acquisition of parks by a tax on vacant ground alone stigmatize all who oppose the acquisition of parks by a tax on vacant ground alone as it is to denounce as enemies of silver all who oppose its free coinage at 16 to 1. It is the method and not the object which

The average man is so constituted that The average man is so constituted that he is apt to be a little careless in voting taxes which he doesn't have to pay. To check this tendency, the organic laws of most states put a limit beyond which legislatures and local taxing agencies may not go, and the enabling acts of congress, under which new states are formed, always provide that the property of non-residents shall not be taxed at any higher not go, and the enabling acts of congress, under which new states are formed, always provide that the property of non-residents shall not be taxed at any higher rate than that of the resident taxpayer. Is it not just possible that the framers of the park law, in order to evade the constitutional limit of taxation, have misappled the plan of levying special taxes for purely local objects, like district sewers and street pavements, to a far reaching and costly system of public parks which are designed and expected to benefit all interests and to the cost of which all interests and to the cost of which all interests onght to contribute?

It has been pertinently asked why these objections have been so long delayed? And it may be fairly admitted that the taxpayers have not exercised due diligence in allowing the scheme to so far develop without raising their objections. They probably did not realize the scope of the law until they began to feel the pressure of heavy assessments, severe penalties and high rate of interest, all of which is to become a new lien upon much property already more or less encumbered. But if one has missed his way, and though he may have traveled far, is it not better that he turn back than continue in the wrong direction?

turn back than continue in the wrong di-rection?

Cannot our many learned lawyers and municipal legislators find some honest way of getting parks without oppressing any class of taxpayers? Is Missouri such a churlish step-dame as to deny her mu-nicipal children the privilege of living and dressing suitably to their means and sta-tion?

nicipal children the privilege of living and dressing suitably to their means and station?

Kansas City park bonds duly authorized and issued, principal and interest provided for by a tax on all its assessable property would rank with our school, water and library bonds and would need bear no higher rate of interest.

Much has been said during the recent park discussion about inherited wealth and the "unearned increment." In our newly awakened zeal for parks it has seemed that we are about ready for socialism as well as the single tax—Karl Marx and St. Simon as well as Henry George. It is very late in the world's history to complain of the unearned increment.

With the movement of the Scythlan hordes from overpopulated Asia, the march of empire took its westward way and for 2.009 years the ploneer and his descendants have enjoyed the unearned increment of value in their lands resulting partly and oftimes largely from the labors of those who came after them. The hope of getting an interest in the soil and transmitting it to his children, more than any other motive, has brought to our shores the most valued immigrant. But for the unquestioned right of the ploneer to get cheap lund and profit by the growth of population and land values the adage, "Go West and grow up with the country," would have had no meaning and the wilderness no attraction.

With as much propriety it might be pro-

no attraction.
With as much propriety it might be pro With as much proposed to take by taxation from the stock posed to take by taxation from the stock yards and packing houses the unearned increment of wealth which has come to them the rapid development of the



That is the story the morning newspapers tell of the modern business man. Too much money-getting. Too little care for health. Too much rush, and strain, and sleep, to digest the food, to rest tired body and tortured brain. Not enough time to think once in a while of health and strength and happiness and a long and useful life

and happiness and a long and useful life. A widow and orphans left to moura. A big estate that under the dissecting knife of the executor falls all to pieces. 'Tis the story of thousands of business men in life reputed wealthy and successful. It is a story that is unnecessary—need not be.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery if resorted to occasionally will keep a man or woman in good health. It goes to the roots of things. It tunes up the strings of life and makes them vibrate to the music of good health. It makes the appetite keen, the digestion good, the blood pure, and the nerves health. It makes the appetite keen, the di-gestion good, the blood pure, and the nerves strong. Then ill-health is an impossibility, and work is a pleasure. Thouands say so. "Your' Golden Medical Discovery' has been a great physician to our family," writes Mr. Ira S. Foust, of Naylor, Ripley Co., Mo. "My wife's father had Bright's Disease. His water was al-most pure blood. We got a bottle of 'Golden Medical Discovery' and it did him so much good that he tried another and then a third, and the fourth entirely cured him."

Nothing in the world so many times pays Nothing is the world so many times pays for itself to its owner as a good medical book. The very best one is Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. Now for a limited time, an edition, paper-covered, will be distributed FREE. Send 21 one-cent stamps (to pay the cost of mailing only), to World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N.Y. For 31 stamps you may obtain the book in cloth, beautifully stamped.

Western farms, Every newspaper, every transportation company, every business and every profession enjoys its unearned increment resulting from the rapid growth of new communities and values created by

of new communities and values created by the labors of others.

Were it not better that we, as conservative citizens, instead of inveighing against inheritances and unearned increments and procepting for impracticable theories, get out our "Elements of Civil Government" and re-learn those fundamental principles of property rights which are in danger of being forgotten?

HENRY TOPPING.

The Lie Against Government

To the Editor of The Journal. Max Nordau in "Conventional Lies" has a chapter devoted to the "Lie of Govern-ment," and I borrow his nomenclature. I have not my quarrel with Nordau, but with people nearer home, who ceaselessly lie about our government. What I shall say has perhaps been said over and over, and better than I will say it, but while a lie is urrent its contradiction should be pro-laimed until the lie is put to silence. The cuirrent its contradiction should be pro-claimed until the lie is put to silence. The lie against our government has two phases
—the lie of complaint and the lie of rem-edy. The lie of complaint avers that social and governmental institutions are growing worse; the rich growing richer, the poor growing poorer; independence and liberty wane, while dependence and the autocracy of wealth increase; that the tendency is to plutocracy on the one hand, and poverty on the other, and that the cause for this general drift on the road to degeneracy is vicious class legislation. It is claimed to be a fact that this retrogression has been ac-celerated in a most marked degree since the early days of the civil war, and a spur-ious letter, attributed to Lincoln, is cited to prove that he foresaw the calamities that were to befall this country. Now, the fact is, this period that is put in evidence to establish the claim of degeneracy will in time be regarded as one of the grandest in material achievements and progress in all the history of the Union. It began with the sentiment of humanity that could not brook human slavery and the philanthropic the history of the Union. It began with the sentiment of human'ty that could not brook human slavery and the philanthropic spirft has grown since. Slavery has not only been abolished, but the public sentiment that upheld or tolerated it in the South has passed away. No one who inteligently understands this period would exchange it, all things taken into consideration, for any other thirty-six years of our history.

But the complainers are not so easily silenced. The voice of lamentation is loud and persistent. The better days were those and persistent. The better days were those in the past. If not accepting entire the myth of the Golden Age, they at least affect to believe the present bad and the past vastly better. The remedy they propose is a return, mainly, to the practices of more or less remote periods in the past. The socialization of democracy is, neither more nor less, a return to conditions that have been tried, in the evolution of nations on a smaller scale and corrective. ons, on a smaller scale and, correctly or acorrectly, discarded.

neorrectly, discarded.
The evolution of social institutions is instructive on this point. The evidence points to the conclusion, the irresistible conclusion, that the starting point was the savage structive on this point. The evidence points to the conclusion, that the starting point was the savage state and that progress has been made through all degrees to the highest civilization. The beginning was without law or government, the end is with both; the beginning was without articulate language or thought, the end is literature and philosophy; the beginning was without marriage or home or religion, and the end is marriage, home and the temple; the beginning was in the might of brute force, the "survival of the fittest." the end is in philanthropy, humanity, the protection of the helpless; the beginning was without the individual ownership of property, with rules for its inheritance. There were stages in this evolution possibly so low that there was the mere brute individualism; then groups; then families; then tribes based upon relationship; then the chief and the custom to be followed or enforced—the forerunner of government and law; then the tribe with community of property, of wives and of general interests; then polygamy and polyandry took the place of promiscuity and monogamy supplanted all other sex relation, and herein is the foundation of the modern family; government has been a growth from rude barbaric custom enforced by wild chieftains, to modern jurisprudence, lawmakers, law interpreters and law executors; out of the tribe came confederation of tribes, consolidation of mations, rulers; the evclution of individual ownership of property, from the communal property rights of the barbaric custom enforced by wild chieftains, to modern jurisprudence, lawmakers, law interpreters and law executors; out of the tribe came confederation of tribes, consolidation of mations, rulers; the evclution of individual ownership of property, from the communal property rights of the barbaric conditions has been marked and instructive.

The evolution of government and of the two special social institutions, that of marriage and the personal right to own property, have always been uniform, that evolution has always b

law of social evolution generally. The mistake should not be made by concluding that evolution has always been uniform, that results have always been perfect or the best. There have been reactionary movements and evils have persisted that might and should have been discarded. In the main, however, society has evolved about the best of which it was capable under all circumstances. In government the evolution has been from the little to the big, from the tribe to the nation by concentration. As to marriage, the evolution out of promisculty, out of community of husbands and wives, out of polygamy into monogamy, the foundation of the modern family, has been positive and of high benefit.

No one would be rash enough to say that marriage, as it is, is a perfect institution. The records of divorce courts and marital discords disprove such assumption. But that marriage is the best relation of the sexes, the foundation for the home, and the surest protection and provision for the wife and children that has yet been devised is not a matter of serious dispute. Those who dispute this proposition would inaugurate a condition that has been, in some form or other, condemned by the experience of mankind.

It is through the revolution of individual ownership of property that the results of the sevent of the greatest of the sevent of the seve

pute this proposition would inaugurate a condition that has been, in some form or other, condemned by the experience of mankind.

It is through the revolution of individual ownership of property that the greatest light is thrown on the present industrial condition and that over which is so much complaint and contention. At one stage the individual depends upon himself. He dressed the skin of an animal, in which he clothed himself; with the bow, or the gun, or rude implements of agriculture he acquired food for himself and family. To him the bread and butter question, the industrial question was a simple matter, and without books upon economics he solved it. He was not clothed in fine linen, nor arrayed in broadcloth, but he kept out the cold; he did not feast upon "dishes fit for the goods," neither went he hungry. At another stage he was raising his corn and grinding it at the toll mills; carding and spinning his home grown wool into yarn, then into cloth, then into clothing; with the aid of the village smith his tools were mostly fashioned. He was still practically independent; and if he bought anything he paid for it with the product of the farm. The village cobbler, and weaver, and smith were glad to exchange work for corn and meat. The industrial question was still in its simpler stage and governmental functions limited practically to police regulation and war, defensive or offensive. Another stage, and we find modern industrialism. The pack horse has been displaced by the steam engine; the loom by the woolen mill; the village cobbler by the shoe factory; the village smith by implement factories; instead of being industrially independent individuals are interdependent; instead of barter there has grown up the invention of money and other mechanism of exchange; instead of the manufacture of articles and transportation on a moderate scale the whole fabric has grown to enormous proportions. This could not be possible but by concentration of transportation, but in other great enterprises it is only through con

ute, are necessary to our present indus trial condition.

This brings us face to face with the chief This brings us face to face with the chief lie against government, to-wit: In granting the privilege of corporate organization the state has licensed capital to rob the producer; and through the manipulation of these corporations the country has been despoiled, honor has been made bankrupt, legislation a matter of purchase and the ermine of the court sullied. Face the problem. The corporations must be allowed to continue (which does not preclude salutary and reasonable state regulation), or the state must assume the control and operation of all monopolies, if there shall be a pretense at maintaining our present industrial condition. Or on the other hand, corporations must be forbidden and business carried forward on purely individual enterprise and capital. That this would practically revolutionize commerce as at present organized is very true. Shall we go back of the age of steam and electricity, dispense with the great factories, and have railroads, if at all, owned in sections as this or that individual can afford? Not that. Shall we go buck and engraft the discarded

commonism of property, that existed at some time in the childhood of nations, as the plan for carrying forward the great enterprises of this nation? This is the situation: These enterprises must be owned and operated as private concerns; must be owned and operated as a part of state institutions; or must be abandoned—abandoned because they are dangerous and the public safety demands it. "Had you rather Caesar were living and die all slaves, than than Caesar were dead, to live all free men? As Caesar loved me, I weep for him.

\* \* But as he was ambitious, I slew him. There is tears for his love; joy for his fortune; honor for his valor; and death for his ambition."

The charge that this nation is in the process of decay by reason of class corporate legislation, is, put plainly, a lie. The assertion that to have the state absorb the great enterprises classed as monopolies

process of decay by reason of class corporate legislation, is, put plainly, a lie. The assertion that to have the state absorb the great enterprises classed as monopolles would be a remedy for industrial inequalities is proved by experiments, time and again, to be a lie. These questions will come ever and anon. The man who reaches the stage of seeing imperfection in government vainly thinks he has discovered something new; and, being possessed with this idea, it is not strange that he should be egotistic enough to believe the world has been waiting for him to remedy its wrongs. Alas, he will find that imperfection is a part of humanity; that government is no better than the average virtue of its citizens. The condition of the average American, his opportunity, his education, his general comfort, when compared with any average period before the war, disproves the doleful slander against our government. The growth of the spirit of philanthropy, the position of women, the protection insured to the helpless, the eradication of the sentiment that upheld slavery, disprove the general invective against our government. And yet there will be legislation to protect the weak and make practical notions of philanthropy. Compared with all governments, the charge against our own deserves earnest condemnation. "Who is here so rude that he would not be" an American? "If any, speak, for him have I offended. Who is here so vile, that he will not love his country? If any, speak, for him have I offended."

B. L. KEENAN.

Wichita, Kas., April 10.

Penitent Peter Peteroski.

To the Editor of The Journal. The oddest of all the odd Polanders existing on the North Canadian river, in Oklahoma, is the decrepit nonogenarian, Peter Peteroski. He is literally dressed in rags all the year around. Of course, he wears twice as much rags in winter as during the hot season. He lives in a wretched little cabin and does his own cooking. An iron pot, a coffee pot and a frying pan are his

pot, a conce pot and a rlying pan are mis kitchen utensiis, Peter lives very frugally, and would, like John the Baptist, live on locusts and wild honey if the Canadian valley afforded those juicy luxuries. He wears enormous shoes so that he can murfle his feet in several pairs of home-made socks. He makes his own clothes-or rather wearing rags. His Poland nelegibors, who knew him in the land of Koskiosko, laugh cause." They say, "he has thousands of cause." they say, "he has thousands of collars in the banks, and always has hundreds of dollars on his person or buried near his shanty."

Peter Peteroski is doubtless the wealth-lest settler in the North Canadian valley and lives on less than the poorest man in Oklahoma Territory. He generally devotes eight hours to praying, eight hours to sleeping and eight hours to charging around, fishing, feeding chickens and napping every wenty-four hours. His life's story contains much that smacks of knavery and superstition. It seems that the dread of meeting the devil is a chronic complaint with the eccentric old cripple. He can't talk five minutes to a person without mentioning the emperor of hell at least ten times. Peter Peteroski seems that oeen afflicted with the devil fever for many years, which his many prayers and so have often seen Satan and Es Galmis to have often seen Satan and Highness and lurid descriptions his infernal highness and lurid descriptions his infernal highness and lurid descriptions his many prayers ago. His father taught him the arts of tar making and soan boiling.

He fell desperately in love with a buxom lassie named Flika, who, however, sneered at the unromantic, rough looking soapmaker's affection. It nearly unbalanced his not very powerful intellect, Managing to get mough money to pay his passage to America, he dispatched his trunk to the seaport, himself walking all the way from home to the harbor on the king's highway. Several handsome carriages passed poor Peter and none asked him to take a ride. A small satched feli out of one of the fast

noney he had, left his farm and wife be-aind and started to walk to the "land of money he had, left his farm and wife behind and started to walk to the "land of the fair god." His penitent pilgrimage lasted nearly three months. He tramped, starved, prayed and shivered from Dakota to Oklahoma for three long months. Finally he settled near some Pollsh friends in the North Canadian valley. He does continual penance for his soul's sake, and to keep the devil from the premises. He told the writer that fastings prayers and rags are as good preventive against the devil fever as quinine is to keep off malaria. He hates the Jews with fervent hate, because "they because I often see him when asleep." But Peter Peteroski hates the Jews for a worse reason. The Jewish money-changer of the seaport town, who followed him to Wisconsin, and after getting lots of Peter's money, whispered the following: "The contents of a satchel Peter found on the highway consisted of a large amount of paper money. I changed some of the bills for him. That satchel led to Peter Peteroski's fortune and torment. No wonder he does so much penance and that he is afraid of the devil." MATT DUHR. Guthrie, O. T., April 7, 1897.

The Prospective Tariff Law.

To the Editor of The Journal. With the enactment of the tariff bill now before congress into law the writer predicts an immediate and general revival of business—an instilling into the minds and confidences of the people of this country a zeal the like of which has not been a po-tent business factor since the memorable defeat of the Republican party in 1892 and the consequent repeal of the McKin-ley law.

defeat of the Republican party in 182 and the consequent repeal of the McKinley law.

Notwithstanding the fact that the stock in trade of the Democratic party the past four years was the charge that the Republican pary was not in favor of a high protective tariff and that its members would not again dare to go on record as favoring a return to protective principles, the rapidity and eagerness with which the lower house of congress, where there is a large Republican majority, passed the Dingley tariff bill, is a most forcible denial of such an assertion and should bring the blush of shame to the face of every man who thus permits his selfishness to override his judgment.

And while being very gratifying to Republicans everywhere to know that there was a surplus of receipts over expenditures of over \$3,000,000 during the month of March of the present year, it must be a source of extreme humiliation to those who opposed the protective principles during the last campaign and who even went so far in their mad partisan zeal as to vote for free silver and national dishonor and ruin.

Another thing to which the attention of

the public might with interest be called is the fact that the number of men now daily employed in ten cities who could not get work six months ago now reaches far into the thousands, a condition which should encourage and stimulate Republicans, as well as that vast army of American citizens who, laying aside their partisan feelings, joined with the Republican party in maintaining a sound and stable currency.

There was a shout of aimost universal satisfaction went up when it was announced that the Republican party had been returned to power, but the road to national prosperity will not be whoily clear of the rubbish deposited there by the Democratic party until the Dingley tariff bill shall have passed the senate and been signed by the president. That will put an end to all uneasiness and uncertainty, and convert into an accomplished fact what has been mere prediction the past four years. The unusual and unnecessary habit of the government paying out more money than it gets in will be a thing of the past, and bond issues to susthin the national credit will have been consigned to the iomb of forgetfulness.

That the political achievement of last fails responsible for this condition of affairs needs no explanation. The opponents of the Republican party and all those who allied themselves with it said that the breiness ruin in case of the election of Major McKinley would be even more severe, if possible, than it had been the past four years. The result has proved that their forecasts were erroneous and as the tendency of business up to the defeat of Mr. Bryan was downward it must be, since the records show a steady business improvement, that the election of the great champion of protection is responsible for the stimulus which the business world has certainly experienced.

R. M. H.

## Crop Prospects.

To the Editor of The Journal.

The past week I have driven over about one hundred miles of this and three adjoining townships. My estimation on the crop prospects would be: Acreage an average, good to extra good, 30 per cent; fair to good, 40 per cent; very poor to fair, 25 per cent, with about 5 per cent to be put to other crops. The prospect all around will average better than the preceding four years.

Oxford, Kas., April 7, 1897. Oxford, Kas., April 7, 1897.

SHEPHERDS OF CALIFORNIA.

Many Seek the Calling as a Cure for Consumption.

The California shepherd is an individual The California shepherd is an individual almost entirely unknown to the rest of the world. Even the residents of the state hardly know of his existence, while the cowboy has a worldwide fame. It is because the men are different in almost every way, particularly in disposition. And, after all, the difference is, to a large extent, caused by the animals they care for. The villainous cowboy, who would rather fight than eat, and thinks that the noblest things in the world are forms of dissipation, can get no satisfaction for his nature in caring for such gentle creatures as sheep. He wants something that he can swear at, like a vicious steer, that would be only too glad to gore him to death if he would let him. He wants to dash wildly over the range on a pony as vicious as the steer, or himself, for that matter, and ride through small settlements like a demon. The beasts in his care are not easily hurt, and he can abuse them as much as he feels like, by lassoing them, throwing them down and branding them. There is nothing gives a cowboy as much pleasure as branding a bull that has given him considerable trouble. He likes to see the creature squirm in agony as he presses the hot iron into his flesh. To kill one that is demoralizing to the herd is the height of his delight.

In marked contrast to this individual is the sheep herder—that is, the majority of sheep herders. To be sure, there are some almost as bad as the cowboys, but they are for the most part men who are employed by ranchers for so much a month, and are delegated to the work as they might be to any other work on the ranch. But they don't like it. The real sheep hrder, and he is largely in the majority, is the man who follows it in preference to anything else. A man who is attached to the work would rather watch sheep on the hills than be the president of a bank.

Another class of men who watch sheep are those who do it for their health. Dozens of men claim to have been out of consumption simply by putting in several months at watching sheep. The work g almost entirely unknown to the rest of the world. Even the residents of the state hardly know of his existence, while the

ROMANTIC SKIPPER NEILSON.

Takes Pigeons to Bring Back Letters to His Bride. From the San Francisco Chronicle,

A sealer is not generally credited with being a romantic man, but Captain Fred Nellson is the exception. Being compelled to go to sea, he has utilized carrier pigeons to bear messages of love to his bride

to go to sea, he has utilized carrier pigeons to bear messages of love to his bride ashore.

While hunting along the California coast for the rich skins, his thoughts turn to a little woman in a cozy home in the Richmond district of this city. Thinking of this woman, Captain Neilson writes out a brief reiteration of his affection, liberates a carrier pigeon, and a loving message speeds over the sea to comfort the bride.

A few weeks ago Neilson called at the residence of G. T. Marsh, at the corner of Clement street and Twelfth avenue, and introduced himself as Captain Neilson, of 412 Twelfth avenue when at home, and master of the sealing schooner Rattler when at sea. He asked Marsh for some of his carrier pigeons. Captain Neilson had been married only two or three months, and his young bride swore he should never go to sea again. Neilson is part owner of the vessel he commands, and business compelled him to leave his bride for a trip of eight or ten months, the first two or three along the coast, and the rest of the time in the Arctic. He told her she should hear from him, and straightway began looking around for carrier pigeons. Marsh gave him three birds, and the next morning the Rattler put to sea.

Now a message has been received. The bird bore two messages. One was to Marsh, the other was to Captain Neilson's wife. The message to Marsh merely stated that the vessel was fifteen miles outside the Farallones and, therefore, forty miles from the coast. Another bird is expected any day.

When you suffer from sick headache, dizziness, constipation, etc., remember Car-ter's Little Liver Pills will relieve you. One pill is a dose.

Getting Acquainted.

From the Hariem Life.

His Satanic majesty—"Is that Boston man getting thawed out yet?"

Deputy assistant devil—"I think he's beginning to; he said 'good morning' to me as I was raking down the fires."

Many persons keep Carter's Little Liv-er Pills on hand to prevent billous attacks, sick headache, dizziness, and find them just what they need. Directions Wanted. Dr. Ende—"There's nothing serious the matter with Patsy, Mrs. Mulcahey. I think a little soap and water will do him as much good as anything."

Mrs. Mulcahey—"Yis, docther, an' will Ol give it to him befoor or afther his males?"

In Rheumatism

Benson's **PorousPlaster** to the aching parts. Incomparably the best and most effective external remedy ever compounded.

BENSON'S is the only highly medicated plaster and cares where others fall to even relieve. But only the genuine effective.

SHELBY'S FIGHT FOR HEIRS.

SOUGHT TO REGAIN MILLIONS FROM THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT.

Thrilling Adventures of Daring Missourians Who Accumulated Untold Wenith in the Land of the Axtees.

General Jo Shelby, only a few weeks prior to his death, had undertaken the ask of securing for the relatives and heirs of William Ripley and John C. Keenes of St. Joseph, and Peter Gausney, of St. Charles, Mo., the possession of a fortune worth many millions of dollars down in Mexico. Had he lived, with the use of the locuments in existence and his personal knowledge of the matter, it is certain he would ultimately have established the title and secured for the heirs their just inherit ince. He was interested in the matte because the three men were his soldiers and were with that ragged band of supporters of the Lost Cause that followed him to Mexico. When the others tired of the surroundings and left, they stayed and with true shrewdness and forethought, grew to be enormously rich. The storie of their trip to the land of the Aztecs, the manner in which they accumulated the property, how they lost it and their final leave-taking of the country abound in thrilling events and, taken together, form an interesting chapter.

an interesting chapter.

Every member of Shelby's command will remember Ripley. He was a Missourian, but when the war opened was located in New Orleans with his brother in the commission business. They owned several steamers and one of them, named the Mexico, was transformed into a gunboat by the use of cotton bales and railroad iron. Major William Ripley was in command of that boat in the naval battle funcht at Memphis. The vessel was shot iron. Major William Ripley was in command of that boat in the naval battle fought at Memphis. The vessel was shot to pieces, but he swam ashore and was so angered by the affair that he vowed never to surrender. He served with Jeff Thompson and later was attached to Shelby's command and stayed with it.

Ripley a Napoleon of Finance.

Ripley was a daring spirit and shortly after his arrival in Mexico joined with others in a scheme to save Maximillian. For this he was sent in irons to the City of Mexico, and it was only the diplomacy and persuasiveness of General Jo Shelby that saved his neck. With the help of General Escobeba, the affair was smoothed over and Ripley joined the Sterling Price crowd that was trying to form an American colony at Cordova. The Mexican government offered great inducements and Ripley saw his opportunity. He knew the colony could not last long. He was the leading spirit in the enterprise. He was a man of polished address and a born leader, a schemer and financier. The soldiers were assisted by him to perfect their titles and get everything in perfect shape, and by his assistance many thousand according to the same and thousand according to the same and the same an Ripley a Napoleon of Finance. titles and get everything in perfect shape, and by his assistance many thousand acres of that valuable land was soon securely in the possession of the ex-Confederate

Peter Gausney, of St. Charles, Mo., a man with little education, had followed General Price into Cordova. Owing to some of his utterances at the execution of Maximillian he had won the favor of the high officers. He found there a magnificent val-ley of about 10,000 acres and settled on it. He set his stakes and wrote on a piece of rough timber with chalk:

> "I ONE THIS LAND," PETER GAUSNEY.

Then he and Ripley joined hands and through Ripley's scheming the title to Ione valley was soon confirmed and the Mexican government solemnly recorded the fact that it belonged to Peter Gausney and his heirs forever. Later a large tract of land carefully described and known as Los Floritas ranch was conveyed by the government to William Ripley and John C. Keenes.

Ionians' Era of Prosperity.

Ionians' Era of Prosperity.

The Price colony was a failure, just as had been foreseen by Ripley. The men grew disheartened when they heard that Shelby had gone back to the United States. They longed for their home land and from time to time were willing to transfer their claims for trifling sums to get back home. It came to a climax when General Price decided to return. Keenes, Gausney and Ripley had secured possession of a drove of mustangs, and they fitted the soldiers out for traveling and got the land for the mustangs, and were soon in possession of large tracts given to the rebel colony by the government. They called themselves the Ionians. Then began their wonderful period of prosperity.

They gathered about them vast herds of cattle and ponies. They employed hundreds of laborers raising coffee. They prospered more than they had ever dreamed of and three years after Keenes and Ripley went to Europe on a pleasure tour. They cut a wide swath at Paris. Gausney cared for the ranch and traded forty yoke of oxen for a silver mine. Keenes died at Naples and Ripley returned to Mexico. They developed the silver mine and it was of wonderful value. They could take out \$10,000 in a day. They carried an enormous deposit with the bank and had not the slightest trouble until old Peter went on a big drunk and did a lot of promiscuous shooting at a fandango and killed one woman. It was two years before Ripley, by the liberal use of money, was able to have his partner declared not guilty. After getting out Gausney was ruined in health and died at Montery. Before dying he made Ripley promise to share the fortune they had with his relatives back in the States.

Ripley was in New Orleans in 1879 and spent most of his time with a young man in the employ of Mandeville, Bomler & Trailer, whose mother had years before been Ripley's sweetheart. After Ripley had departed this young man blossomed out as a wealthy man, owned steam yachts and went into business. He is supposed to have received the money from Ripley.

Ordered Shot at Sunrise.

Ripley was a lover of politics, and several times was involved in difficulties, but was saved from trouble by the interference of the friend of Gausney, who was influential. After the death of Gausney there was no one to soften the fiery remarks of Ripley, and, swelled up with his own wealth and feeling that with money he could do anything, he was soon seriously involved in trouble, caused by the enmity of jealous people and a liaison with a woman. The leman estate was yielding fabulous sums, and the silver mine, which was called the Jo Shelby, was turning out that precious metal in great quantifies. He moved to the City of Mexico and lived in great splendor.

It was in 1871 that he was averaged in

dor.

It was in 1877 that he was arrested in the City of Mexico and locked in a dungeon. The next morning he was released without a word of explanation. He knew that meant to leave, and he worked his best turning his possessions into gold. He gathered a large sum and decided to leave. He was not a citizen of the States, and the flag way him no protection. ered a large sum and decided to leave. He was not a citizen of the States, and the flag gave him no protection.

He had turned his personal property into gold, and carried a fabulous sum, when he was again arrested. He tried in vain to bribe the commanding officer, but failed. He was locked up at Chihuahun and convicted on a forged mass of testimony of trying to overturn the government. He was to be shot at daybreak, but friends bribed the sentry, and long before daylight he was riding like the wind for the shores of America. He escaped to San Antonio, and at once set about getting his property back. He met discouragements, and drifted about until, a few years since, he died at Fort Worth. He said he was able to prove the forgery of the testimony against him, so that he could get back the property wrongfully taken when he was convicted. The charge was false, and as there was no charge whatever against the property that was owned by the estates of Gausney and Keenes, the government was not able to rightfully touch it at all. He always claimed that his personal belongings there were worth \$5,000,000. This was in addition to the millions that were the property of Gausney and Keenes, and he asserted that, with the protection of the United States government, there would be no trouble whatever in getting the entire property back to its legal owners.

The Records Are Intact. This much was uncovered with great ease

This much was uncovered with great ease in the preliminary investigation made by General Shelby, and it was his purpose to carry it out and secure the possession of the property for the rightful helrs. The deeds to the Ionian colony and the grants made to Gausney are of record in the office of the minister of state in Mexico, and in the records of the war department can be found the rest, and copies of the whole affair could be secured, and would have been had General Shelby lived a few weeks longer. There is enough involved in the affair to keep the heirs of the two men, no matter how numerous they may be, rolling in all sorts of wealth for their lives, and it was the ambition of General Shelby to secure it for them and serve the heirs of the men who had followed him on that fateful trip. Keenes was a farm laborer near St. Joseph when the war broke out, and Gausney was a farmer near St. Charles, Mo.

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JOPLIN MINING DISTRICT. THE OILS THAT LUBRICATE MOST

LAST WEEK'S SALES OF LEAD AND ZINC WERE HEAVY.

Producers of Lead Ore Are Still Hold ing Their Output for Higher Prices

-Prices Compared With Same Season Last Year. Joplin, April 11.-(Special.) The week's ead and zinc sales were heavy, notwith standing several rainy days, which inter-

fered with working in some localities. The sales of zinc ore were twenty-four cars nore than the preceding week and thirtywo cars more than the corresponding week of last year. The sales of lead ore were six cars less

than the preceding week. Many producers are holding back their lead ore for better The highest price paid during the week for zinc ore was \$21 per ton. Lead brought \$18.25, delivered, all week. In the corre-

high as \$23; lead at \$17. Following are the sales of zinc and lead in the Joplin mining district for the week

ending April 10: JOPLIN. Granby 072

Joplin Prospect Company 1,505,510

Empire Zinc Company 85,550

Rex 64,920

Bunker Mining Company 18,670

Bolen Lead and Zinc Co.

Blue Goose 28,590

Wright Mining Company 17,400

Columbia 17,400

Columbia 29,880

E. N. Perry 21,460

Becky Sharp 16,460

Baker Baker ..... Harrison ..... 
 Harrison
 12,110

 Dickerson
 12,110

 New York
 4,530

 McCoy
 4,530

 Scotia
 83,180

 John H. Taylor
 14,260

 Roaring Springs
 14,260

 Kelley & Overall
 71,500

 Joplin City Mining Co
 8,830

 Mohaska
 19,320

 Sundry sales
 19,320

\*Value, \$27,188. Zinc. Lead. Value.

Galena 3,259,000 617,170 \$40,359
Aurora \$450,000 40,000 3,380
Oronogo 35,100 5,220 424
Alba 194,000 1,040
Stotts City 44,620 446
Zincite 27,470 239
Granby 282,500 2,096
CARTERVILLE.
Zinc Lead

Grounds & Irwin 106, 430
Chatham 117,960
Chatham 117,960
Davey & Son \$7,030
McKinley \$3,840
Eleventh Hour 77,450
Herold 40,280
Get There 30,000
Rising Sun 38,520
J. M. Burgner 31,610
S. C. Edgar 7,420
Sadtler Lead and Zinc Co 20,960
Davey, Daugherty & Co.
Richland Perry

| Zinc | Ore. |

2,190 250 output ...... . 89,369,400 17,099,810 1,125,400

2,300

4,270

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Arthur C. Robinson, Secretary; W. S. Taylor, Treasurer; Frank B. Wilcox, Ass't Treasurer; J. J. Cairnes, Ass't Secretary; E. S. Mosher, Ass't Secretary; Trimble & Braley, General Attorneys.

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